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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN RE: NEW ENGLAND FAST FERRY, LLC (Tariff Filing)

APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL TO AMEND TARIFF FOR RIPTA-SPONSORED FERRY TRANSPORTATION PURSUANT TO R.I.G.L. §§ 39-3-10 AND 11 AND REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION PURSUANT TO R.I.G.L. § 39-3-12

Pursuant to R.I.G.L. § 39-3-10 and 39-3-11, New England Fast Ferry

Company, LLC ("New England Fast Ferry") submits this application for approval of its

amended rates for seasonal ferry transportation connecting the termini of Providence and

Newport. The Rhode Island Public Transit Authority ("RIPTA"), as the sponsor of the seasonal ferry service, joins this application.

In support of this application, New England Fast Ferry and RIPTA state the following:

1. RIPTA has received grant funds under the Intermodal Surface

Transportation Efficiency Act/Congestion Mitigation Air Quality ("CMAQ") Program,

administered by the United States Department of Transportation. RIPTA has received the

CMAQ funding for the primary purpose of linking centralized marine transportation services

together with ground transportation options located in Providence and Newport. Since June

2000, RIPTA has sponsored the operation of ferry transportation between Providence and

Newport.

- 2. Pursuant to a competitive bidding process, RIPTA selected New England Fast Ferry in December 2002 as the provider of the seasonal ferry transportation services.
- in a filing in the Spring of 2005, in approving fares for the 2005 operating season, the Commission exercised its option under R.I.G.L. § 39-3-12 to waive public notice and hearings based upon the fact that the services do not constitute "lifeline" ferry services to an isolated ratepayer population.
- 4. In planning for the 2007 season, New England Fast Ferry and RIPTA have undertaken a careful review of its operating schedules and as submitted herein, request the waiver of public notice by the Public Utilities Commission and hearing for the following tariff changes:
- (i) To change the times of trips, as reflected on Exhibit 1, attached hereto and made a past hereof, to better reflect the desires and needs of New England Fast Ferry's customers;
- (ii) To change its ferry schedule by eliminating one late Friday night trip which transports an average of one or two passengers on each trip. See Exhibit 2, attached hereto and made a past hereof; and
- (iii) To change \$2.00 per bicycle for a one way trip. This fare schedule reflects the fact that bicycles effect the trip capacity and work required on its current schedule.

 A separate charge for bicycles is a common practice in the industry.
- 5. New England Fast Ferry and RIPTA respectfully request that the Commission adhere to its past practice and exercise its authority under R.I.G.L. § 39-3-12 to

waive further investigation, further notice and hearing regarding the tariff for seasonal ferry transportation services.

WHEREFORE, New England Fast Ferry and RIPTA request that the Commission approve the proposed amended tariff for the seasonal ferry transportation between Providence and Newport.

Pefer J. McGinn (#1178) TILLINGHAST LICHT LLP 10 Weybosset Street Providence, RI 02903

February <u>\$</u>, 2007

I, Michael Glasfeld, as President of New England Fast Ferry, LLC, swear that I have reviewed the contents of this application and attest to the accuracy of its factual representations regarding the operating costs for the seasonal ferry transportation services:

Michael *G*lasfeld

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND PROVIDENCE, SC.

Signed and sworn before me on this 7th of February, 2007.

Motary Public

My Commission Expires:

2007 Proposed Newport - Providence Ferry Schedule

Current Schedule

Outlett Collector					
Dpt. PVD.	Arrv. Npt.	Dpt. Npt.	Arrv. PVD		
7:45am	8:50	9:15	10:20		
10:45	11:50	12:15pm	1:20		
1:45	2:50	3:15	4:20		
4:45	5:50	6:15	7:20		
7:45	8:50	9:15	10:20		
10:45	11:50	12:15	1:20		
(Friday and Saturday Only)					

Proposed Schedule

Dpt. PVD.	Arrv. Npt.	Dpt. Npt.	Arrv PVD	
8:30am	9:35	9:50	10:55	
11:15am	12:20pm	12:40	1:45	
2:00pm	3:05	4:00	5:05	
5:30pm	6:35	7:00	8:05	
8:30pm	9:35	10:00	11:05	
11:30pm	12:35am	1:00	2:05	
(Saturday Only)				

Fare Product:

\$2:00 charge per bicycle one way trip

Exhibit No. 1

2006
Providence - Newport
Ferry Passenger Information

2006 Passenger total by trip time				
		Passenger	Passenger	
Seaso	n Total	Per Trip	Per Trip	
Time	Total	% of total		
111116	Pass.	/o Or total		
7:45 AM	1436	4%	9	
9:15 AM	998	3%	6	
10:45 AM	9348	24%	61	
12:15 PM	1998	5%	13	
1:45 PM	4915	12%	32	
3:15 PM	6626	17%	43	
4:45 PM	2835	- 7%	18	
6:15 PM	6609	17%	43	
7:45 PM	904	2%	6	
9:15 PM	2886	7%	19	
10:45 PM	454	1%	10	(see below)
12:15 AM	465	1%	11	
Total	39474			

Friday and Saturday late night detail:

Time	Friday		Saturday	
	Total Pass	Pas/Trip	Total Pass.	Pas/Trip
10:45	48	1	406	9
12:15	88	2	377	9